

Message Text

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11

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

FMC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-04 L-03 /035 W

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R 292111Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7568

UNCLAS GUATEMALA 3992

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, GT, US

SUBJECT: DELTA/FLOMERCA PROBLEM

REF: A. GUATEMALA 3571

B. STATE 177511

1. JULY 29 LA NACION AND GRAFICO GIVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO EFE (SPANISH NEWS AGENCY) CABLE FROM NEW YORK REPORTING JOURNAL COMMERCE STORY ON DELTA-FLOMERCA DISPUTE, JULY 28.

2. BOTH PQPERS CARRY TEASER HEADLINES ON FRONTPAGE, STORIES INSIDE. GRAFICO'S BANNER: "FORD ENVOY INVESTIGATES OPERATION OF FLOMERCA". NACION USES BOXED HEADLINE READING, "MARITIME POLICIES OF GUATEMALA INVESTIGATED IN U.S."

3. NACION CARRIES STRAIGHT EFE STORY SAYING "AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION AND FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION ARE INVESTIGATING PRACTICES OF GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT WITH REGARD TO ITS MARITIME FLEET, ACCORDING TO JOURNAL COMMERCE." REST OF STORY SAYS DELTA HAS CHARGED GUATEMALA WITH FAVORING ITS OWN SHIPS, AND U.S. LAW AUTHORIZES MARITIME COMMISSION TO ADOPTED "APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO COUNTERACT CONDITIONS WHICH ARE UNFAVORABLE TO SHIPMENT OF COMMERCIAL AMERICAN PRODUCTS."

4. GRAFICO REWRITES EFE STORY AND SAYS SPECIAL COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATIVES SENT BY PRESIDENT FORD IS NOW IN GUATEMALA TO INVESTIGATE FLOMERCA, WHOSE MAJORITY SHARE-OWNER IS GUATEMALAN

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GOVERNMENT. REST OF STORY IS LONG DESCRIPTION OF HOW MARI-

TIME FREIGHT RATES HAVE GONE UP REPEATEDLY SINCE 1969.

5. BOTH STORIES SAY IT IS FIRST TIME PROTEST IS OVER SERVICES
RATHER THAN PRODUCTS. BOTH SAY NATURE OF POSSIBLE U.S. REPRISALS
IS UNKNOWN.

6. EARLIER NY TIMES STORY, JULY 9, ON DELTA COMPLAINT -
CITED REF. A - HAS YET TO SURFACE HERE.
MELOY

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Message Attributes

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